

A

REVIEW

OF THE

Affairs of FRANCE.

With Observations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Tuesday, May 29. 1705.

THE short Dialogue with the *Kentish Freeholder*, which ended our last Paper, is the just Application to all the People of *England*, that if they will secure the Church and Government, there is no better Rule for Poor Men to guide their Votes by, than not to Vote as the *Papists* and *Non-jurors* do, who by Principle and Interest, are profess'd Enemies to the Church, and cannot so much as wish, or be pleas'd with its Prosperity.

That then they must Vote against almost all the *English Clergy*; that of 318 Parsons in the County of *Kent*, above 250 of them, in Conjunction with the *Papists*, *Non-jurors*, and *Tackers*, gave their Votes for Sir C—— D——, against almost all the Moderate Churchmen of the County; that these Things are true, is as melancholy as it is certain, and the Reflection will stick close to the *English Clergy*, to the Eternal Reproach, either of their Principles, or of their Understanding, if they do not think of some Methods to redress it.

The reply to this, is every where, What would you have us joyn with the *Dissenters*, the profess'd Enemies of the Government, and of the Church? Do you pretend they can be for the Church, who pull'd it down in 41? And they can be for the Government, who Overthrew

the Monarchy, and Murther'd their Sovereign?

And this I have several Letters full of, which are sent me by some Angry Gentlemen, that tell me my Arguments for Peace are Directed to Inflame the Nation, and that Combustible Matters to set us all on Fire, are Couch'd under my Pretences of Peace, and Usher'd into the World smooth'd with the Oyl of Deceitful Words.

Accept this, Gentlemen, for an Abstract of your Charge, without obliging me to Expose the other Indecencies of your Letters, as well as the Infirmities of Passion and Ill Temper. . . .

First, Gentlemen, it does not appear, that the *Dissenters* as such, are the profess'd Enemies of the Church and Government; whatever their Ancestors did in Governments, much worse managed than this now is, argues no more than to Enquire what the *Church of England Men* did in Queen *Mary's* Time, when they Overthrew the Government, put by the Lawful Heir, Disposed the Crown, by a Deed of Gift, or Legacy, to the *Lady Jane*.

The Government, as now Establish'd, differs as much in its Manner and Administration, from what it was when our Fathers Rebell'd, as you will have it call'd, as it did then from what it was in 1555, when your *Church of England Ancestors* Rebell'd.

Pardon

Pardon me, Gentlemen, that I do not offer at the Ugly Comparison, you call us the Spawn of Rebels, and a certain Noble Man has writ the History of the Rebellion, which in due time may be decently Exposed.

I tell you we are Brethren, even in this Point too, we are all the Spawn of Rebels, and your Church as much as ours; and there are a great many just Reasons to be drawn even from this very Point, why we should agree much better than we do; and why even for shame of your own Actions, you ought to leave off this Invincible Distinction; all the Difference, it seems, lies, That our Rebellion was about 60 Years ago, and some of your many Rebellions are 150 Years ago, so yours are forgotten, and ours are remembred.

But to Ballance this, your Revolution-Loyalty, and the wondrous Agreement between your Practice and Pretences, are too Modern to need Repetition; and I intreat you, Gentlemen, not to oblige us to bring them upon the Stage.

And now, Gentlemen, I am humbly recommending in order to Peace, that the Errors of both Sides may be buried with the Actors, that the Odious Comparison may no more be brought upon the Stage, and that we may not be bound, in our own just Defence, to recriminate, and bring your Loyalty to a farther Inquisition than it will bear.

It is frequent for the Church of *England*, Gentlemen, to plead in Answer to this matter, their Principles are better Establish'd, and so, Gentlemen, are ours—— But this is not all.

I have one Unanswerable Argument, as I think it, to prove, that all your Allegations of the Disloyalty of the *Dissenters* to the Government, or their Enmity to the Church, are groundless, and not to be maintain'd, and that is this;

That whether we are alter'd in Principle, or no, for that you do not care to allow, nor we need not trouble our selves to Debate, *The Government is alter'd.*

What Unhappy Mistakes do Men run into, for want of rightly Distinguishing Cases? What pains has a certain Gentleman taken in Print to prove, That as the *Dissenters* did pull down the Church and the Government once, so they would again, because they are of the

same Principles still, and the same Tempe Reigns in them now, as ever did; and therefore 'ware Church, 'ware Queen.

Why really, Gentlemen, for once, and on the Account of Argument only, I'll admit, tho' I do not grant it, That the *Dissenters* have not seen the Error of their Fathers, that they maintain the same Principles, are as much Enemies to the Government as ever, as Invertebrate against the Church as ever, that their Fighting, Resisting Principles, have not forsaken them, but that they are always ripe for Rebellion.

Well, Gentlemen, and it has been well for your Church, tho' it has been so; and on this very Account you ought to shake Hands with us, and be at Peace, for if we *Dissenting Rebels*, had not joyn'd with you *Church Royalists*, if we Fighting Rebels had not joyn'd with you *Passive Obedience Rebels*, where had been your Church or Government either? 'Tis plain, it had been long ago under the Feet of *Roman Catholic* Tyranny.

And here I cannot but note a farther Distinction necessary to be made, that all this Revolution Affair was, tho' the same in its End, yet quite different in its Conduct.

In us it was the Genuine Product of a Natural Reasoning, agreeable to our Constant Opinion, That Invasion of Right, and Violence upon the Constitution, might be legally oppos'd and resisted by Force; but in you it was all downright meer Rebellion both against Government and Conscience, because you had always profest'd it Unlawful.

Dear Brother Rebels, let us Quarrel no more about these Matters; let us Examine no more whose Backsides are blackest; let us look behind us no more; let us agree now, for Peace only can make us happy.

Nor will Examining into Causes do any thing, or Contribute in the least to your Advantage; to what purpose will the Debate be, whether the *Star-Chambers* Tyrannies of 1638, or the High Commission Tyrannies of 1688? Whether the raising Taxes without a Law, in 1640, or the Dispensing with Law in 1687, were the more provoking? Even in this, we could stand the Test of a just Parallel, and fairly, either defend our Fathers, or with them Condemn you as equal in Rebellion.

But to put an End to this Ungrateful Debate, Gentlemen, I return to my Argument, and I prove, the Dissenters cannot be fairly suggested to be Enemies to the Government, or the Church; no, tho' they were of the very same Principle of their Fathers.

1. Because all they requir'd of the Church is obtain'd.

2. All they Complain'd of in the Government, is redres'd.

The Dissenters are pleas'd and easie; not that they are not Dissenters still, nor that they are not resolute against Oppression still, nor that they are not still of the Opinion, that Tyranny may be Repell'd by force.

But they are easie, because all your Church-Tyranny is buried in a Legal Toleration.

And all your State Tyranny is Slain and Demolish'd in the New Establishment.

The Declaration of the Rights of the People of *England*, has stab'd all sorts of Civil Tyranny to the Heart; and the *English* Monarchy under the present Legal and Just Administration, is perfectly purg'd and abstracted from all that ever the Dissenters Complain'd of.

I know but one thing left, that we have to ask of the Government, viz. The Distinction of Tests, Sacraments, and Religious Obligations, at our Admission into Trusts in the Government; and this we find you resolve not to part with, but this does not make us Uneasie; for you see we Comply with you in it, and your Encroaching further on us in that, has so much Unreasonableness in it, is so Illegal, and so contrary to the Reason and Justice of the Case, that even the Government it self is against you.

Now, Gentlemen, come to the Point with us, all we ask either of Church or Crown, being thus granted, I fairly Challenge any Man to prove, either that we are uneasie under what we have, or ever push'd at having more.

We have no reason to Complain, all our Fathers Rebell'd for, is obtain'd; all Oppression is ceas'd, Justice has its Uninterrupted Course, the Government is Equal, Legal, Fair and Just. The Queen Good, Gentle, Merciful, Wite, and every thing, we desire; Persecution is Damn'd both by Parliament and Convocation, Church and State have Voted it Antichristian, contrary to Doctrine, and contrary to Right, we are at full Liberty to Worship God our own way.

In short, Gentlemen, it is impossible we

should Encline to Rebel, for there is nothing to Rebel for; If the Queen would bid us ask for any thing more than we Enjoy, we hardly know any thing worth Troubling Her Majesty about, unless it was to Intreat Her Majesty to desire you to be as Easie with us, as we are with you.

And really, Gentlemen, we must not be allowed to be in our Senses, if arguing from the Rules of Civil Polity, we should Envy you in the present Exercise of your Power, either in Church or State.

You are pleas'd to allow, that the Dissenters are not Fools; and I wish it were more true than it is—Really the Dissenters must be perfectly forsaken of their Senses, and be a ten times more Feeble and Foolish Folk than they are, if ever they desire to have the Government out of the Hands of the Church of *England*.

We have had Schemes of Comprehension Union shewn us of sundry sorts, I believe none of them practicable at least now; in the Year 1660, I believe they might have been more so, but nothing can tend so much to Comprehension as Universal Toleration, and a Legal Monarchy.

This being thus settled, the Occasions of Rebellion are remov'd, the Foundation of Common-Wealth Principles are overthrown, and the whole Body of Dissenters, supposing their Eyes open to their real Interest, cannot ask anything, except as before, more than they now Enjoy; and I am verily perswaded, the present Uneasiness of the Dissenters in *England*, arises from nothing but this; the just Grounds they have to fear, that the Hot Men of the Church of *England*, who appear uneasie at the present Condition of the Dissenters, should have power enough to alter it.

THE Person that sent a Letter Sign'd *S. P.* is Desir'd to signify where an Answer may be Directed to him, the Subject not being proper, nor worth while to trouble this Paper.

These are to give Notice, That the Advice from the *Scandal Club*, will be Published in a Paper by it self, as has been already noted; and will begin on *Friday* next, being the First of *June*; in which the many Letters unanswered will be Consider'd of, we hope to Satisfaction.

Now.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Now in the Press and will speedily be Publish'd, **A** Ntichrist Unmask'd, and Occasional Conformity consider'd, in its Nature and Effects, as Satan's Chief Machine and Master-piece; an actual Abdication of Christianity, as Adam's was out of Paradise: Shewing that the Patrons and Practizers hereof, Shipwreck Faith, Debauch Conscience, are apparent Enemies to the Cross, and Mammon's Devoted Proselytes; have ever been, and yet are, the principal Authors of the most Dreadful Judgments ever heretofore inflicted, or may be justly feared, and will never be Reclaim'd by Tests, or Penal Laws. Together with many other Awakening, Inlightening, and Undeniable Truths, Christian Advise, Convincing Arguments, &c. Similitudes, Parabolical Poems, and all Objections fully Answered. By a true Lover of all Men.

W Heras a Proposal has been made by the Author of this Paper, for Subscriptions to a Book in Folio, Entitl'd, *Jure Livino*; or, *A Survey upon Tyranny and Justice Obedience*. To which, abundance of Gentlemen having long since Subscrib'd, and the Time seeming long for its coming out, some very Good Reasons having obliged the Author to put a Stop to it.

There are to give Notice, That the said Book is now in the Press, and shall go on to be Printed with all Expedition: And for the further Satisfaction of the Subscribers, the Sheets may be seen every Day by any that please to give themselves that Trouble, at Mr. J. Matthews, as they come out of the Press;

All those Gentlemen, who have Collected Subscriptions for this Book, are Desir'd to send in an Account of what Number they have taken, there being no more to be Printed, than shall be given Notice, as Subscribed; and, if they please, to Pay the Subscription Money to Mr. Matthews in Pilkington Court, Little-Britain, Receipts will be given there for it.

DROPPOSALS (different from all others yet publish'd) for a Perpetual Assurance Office: Wherein either S E X may Subscribe, and by Paying 6*l.* per Annum, secure an equal Dividend of 1000*l.* at their Deaths, which in all probability can't amount to less than 300*Pounds*; or a much greater Sum, to any Person they shall Name, besides 3*l.* out of every 6*l.* which they shall have Paid, together with other Advantages (during Life) which will reduce every Member's Yearly Payment to less than 40*s.* Subscriptions are taken, and Proposals at large given gratis, by J. Matthews a Printer, and Mr. Cambridge, in Little-Britain; Mr. Barnes in Pall-Mall; Mr. Nutt, near Stationers-Hall; Mr. Strahan and Mr. Davis in Cornhill; Mr. Hartley, Mr. Hodgson's in Holborn; Mr. Barker in Westminster-Hall; and Mr. Cox, at Temple-Bar, Booksellers. (Note, That no Money is to be Paid, till the Society be full, and Secury given.) Against which, if any Subscriber shall object, he shall be at Liberty, whether he will stand to his Subscription, or not.

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THe are to give Notice, That *Susannah Kyle*, Relict of Dr. Tho. Kyle, a Collegiate Physician of London, and Sworn Physician in Ordinary to King Charles II. is THE Person that sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pill, which is eminently experinc'd to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Scurvies, Leprosies, Venereal and French Disease, Running of the Reins, and all such Malignities, tho' never so inveterate, in all Constitutions, at all Seasons of the Year, hindring no Business, without Sweating, Smoaking, Fluxing, or the use of Mercury, which generally raises the Malignity, fixing it in the Head, from whence it is not easily carried off, but destroys many. These excellent Medicines have cured many after Fluxing; and in Compassion to the Distrested, will deal with all according to their Abilities. The Drink is 3*s.* the Quart, the Pill 1*s.* the Box, with Directions. She gives her Opinion for Nothing, to all that write or come to her. She lives at the Glass-Lanthorn in Plough-Yard, Gray's-Inn-Lane.